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PILGRIMAGE & SACRED PLACE: BIBLIOGRAPHY

Publications by: Rana P. B. Singh



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A. Books, 9:

1. Singh, Rana P.B. 1991. *Panchakroshi Yatra, Varanasi: Sacred Journey, Ecology of Place and Faithscape*. Tara Book Agency, Varanasi. ISBN 81-85403-84-8. (For a fully expanded version, see No. 3).
2. Singh, Rana P.B. and Rana, Pravin. S. 2002a/ 2006. *Banaras Region: A Spiritual & Cultural Guide*. Indica Books, Varanasi. Pilgrimage & Cosmology Series: 1. ISBN 81-86569-24-3. 2nd updated ed. 2006. [A5 22x 15cm, 402pp., 14 tables, 111 figs., 7 appendices]. Price: Rs 395.00/ US\$ 20.
3. Singh, Rana P.B. 2002b. *Towards the Pilgrimage Archetype: The Panchakroshi Yatra of Banaras*. Pilgrimage & Cosmology Series: 3. Indica Books, Varanasi. 2002/ 2011. [A5 22x 15cm, 222pp., 19 tables, 72 figs./maps, 7 appendices]. ISBN: 81-86569-30-8. Price: Rs 275.00/ US\$ 15.
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9. Singh, Rana P.B. 2012. *Hindu Tradition of Pilgrimage: Sacred Space & System*. Planet Earth & Cultural Understanding Series, Pub.: 9. Cambridge Scholars Publishing, Newcastle upon Tyne UK. [22 x 15cm, xii + 358pp., 17 tables, 47figures.] **<in press>**

B. Research Anthologies (edited books), 10:

1. Singh, Rana P.B. [Guest Editor] 1993. *The Layout of Sacred Places. Architecture & Behaviour* (Lausanne, Switzerland, ISSN: 0379-8585), Vol. 9 (2): pp. 157-276; includes 'Introduction' and an essay on 'Varanasi'.
2. Singh, Rana P.B. (ed.) 1993. *BANARAS (Varanasi): Cosmic Order, Sacred City, Hindu Traditions*. Tara Book Agency, Varanasi on behalf of the Varanasi-Studies Foundation. 25 December 1993; [an anthology of 20 essays, mostly reprints]. 62 figs/maps, 344pp. 18 x 24 cm. ISBN 81-85403-92-9. Rs 800/-.
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 5. Singh, Rana P.B. (ed.) 1994. *The Spirit and Power of Place. Human Environment and Sacrality*. NGSI, Varanasi, Pub. 41. Also published as *National Geographical Journal of India*, vol. 40 (1-4), ISSN: 0027-9374/1994/ 0926-0951; [an anthology of 26 essays and highlights of 77 books, 18x24cm 364pp., 90 figs. 1994. ISBN: 81-86187-41-3.
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C. Research Monograph (near completion):

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Keynote Speaker in International Congress/ Conference ---

2009. *The 16th World Congress*, International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences; Kunming, **P.R. China**: 27 - 31 July; (Keynote address, and Chaired Panel 20: Pilgrimage landscape, Cosmogram and Planning Heritage Cities).
2011. International Conference "*Banaras Revisited – Scholarly Pilgrimages to the City of Light*", NTNU Trondheim, **Norway**: 7 - 9 October; (Keynote address, and chaired a panel).
2011. Indo-Swedish 'Go: India' Seminar "*Cultural Geography and Religious Studies*", Göteborg University, **Sweden**: 12 - 13 October; (Keynote address, and chaired a panel).
2011. IFLA (International Federation of Landscape Architects) Asia Pacific Region International Symposium on "*Sustainable Rural Landscape & Planning in Asia Pacific Region*"; Seoul National University, Seoul, **Korea**: 5-8 December; (Keynote address, and chaired a panel).
2012. International Seminar on '*Family in Asian Societies*'; Vth Dies Academicus 2012; Accademia Ambrosiana, Milano, **Italy**: 19 - 20 October; (Keynote address, and chaired a panel).
2013. The 50th World Congress of IFLA (International Federation of Landscape Architects) on "*Shared Wisdom in an Age of Change – Overview*"; Unitech Institute of Technology, Auckland, **New Zealand**: 10 – 12 April; (Keynote address, and Chaired a session).

Pilgrimage & Cosmology Series: 1.

Banaras Region. A Spiritual and Cultural Guide

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This is the first compendium of cultural sites in and around Varanasi, being a veritable small encyclopaedia of the Banaras region. The first section includes Setting, Historical background, Religious landscape, the Cosmogony, Festivities, Riverside landscape, and seven detailed area walks along the ghats and in the old city, and also Sarnath, the Jain places, the Muslim sacredscapes (in and around Banaras), and the rural landscape (village India). The second section 'Around Banaras' covers the sites lying less than 80km. The third part covers the places in the range of 100-300km, including Ayodhya, Khajuraho, Sonapur, Deo, Gaya and Baijnath Dham.

26 January 2002/2006. 402pp, 111 maps/figs. © Singh and Rana. ISBN 81-86569-24-3. Pb, Rs 395/ \$ 30.

Pilgrimage & Cosmology Series: 3.

Towards the Pilgrimage Archetype. Pancakroshi Yatra of Banaras.

Rana P. B. Singh

Based on two decades of experiences, this is the first book length study on the cosmic circuit of Panchakroshi pilgrimage around Banaras, and associated inter circuit "*antatgriha yatra*", a continuous tradition at least since 16th century. Taking contextual milieu, cultural metaphor, cosmogonic meaning associated with the sacred territory and pilgrimage, all the 108 shrines and images are narrated to understand the distinctiveness and diversity of sacredscapes and the associated rituals. Also narrated are the notions of sacrality of time and temporality of sacredness.

20 May 2002. 222pp, 72 figs/maps. © Rana P. B. Singh. ISBN: 81-86569-30-8. Pb, Rs 250/ \$16.

Pilgrimage & Cosmology Series: 5

Where the Buddha Walked. A Companion to the Buddhist Places of India.

Rana P. B. Singh

The book describes all the fifteen places where the Buddha walked, with emphasis on the Sacred Ways & Spiritual Walks, history, culture and his Message, and the guidance to real walk in search of spirit of the places. The places include: *Lumbini*: the birthplace; *Kapilavastu*: childhood place; *Bodh Gaya*: got Enlightenment; *Gaya*: done austerity; *Sarnath*: first preaching; *Shravasti*: place of Great Miracles; *Kaushambi*: sermons in the 6th and 9th years; *Rajgir*: tamed a mad elephant; *Nalanda*: The seat of great University and the Buddhist ruins; *Patna*: stop a night; *Vaishali*: offered honey; *Kesariya*: given begging bowl to the people; *Kushinagar*: Parinirvana place; *Sankisa*: descended from the Tushita heaven; and *Mathura*: paid several visits.

16 May 2003. 332pp., 115 Figs.. © Rana P. B. Singh. ISBN: 81-86569-36-7. Pb, Rs 295/ \$18, Hb, Rs 375/ \$ 22.

Pilgrimage & Cosmology Series: 6.

Cultural Landscapes & the Lifeworld. Literary Images of Banaras.

Rana P. B. Singh

This is the first book narrating the literary images of a single city based on individual's writings on Banaras, the city known as the Cultural Capital of India and the holiest city for Hindus. The literary images and the cultural traditions as described in the fictions and regional writings are interpreted in the purview of cultural symbols and the live traditions, which have maintained its continuity since the past. Each of the fifteen essays describes a time and the culture, illustrated with puranic sources, as narrated in the writings of Kabir, Tulasi, Mirza Ghalib, Bhartendu, Rudra 'Kashikeya', Shivprasad Singh, Bhishm Sahni, Raja Rao, Abdul Bismillah, Kashinath Singh, and Pankaj Mishra. Of course, no one can claim that this will be the end-product of literary images, one can easily realise that the work will be helpful in understanding the complexity and multiplicity of belief systems and historical perspectives of metaphor, symbolism and milieu.

15 Dec. 2004. 396pp., 55 maps & figures. © Rana P. B. Singh. Hb, ISBN: 81-86569-45-6. Hb, Rs 450/ \$ 24.

Pilgrimage & Cosmology Series: 8.

Banaras, the Heritage City of India: Geography, History and Bibliography.

Rana P. B. Singh

This is the first attempt of its kind on the holy city of Varanasi. The section on Geography covers general background of the topography, climate, soils, vegetation, and humanised landscape. The History sections

gives a general brief outline of history, from the ancient most to modern, including a chronological chart. The Bibliographic sources (1267) cover: books in English and German (301), articles in English (374), Persian & Urdu sources (8), Sanskrit sources (59), Hindi sources (84), Marathi sources (2), Bengali sources (3), Published reports/ government documents (17), Electronic publications (9), Films in English (8), Japanese sources (11), Unpublished dissertations (64), Unpublished reports (10), and Unpublished Fieldwork Reports, UW-Madison (150).

2009. 458pp., 32 figs., 1267 sources. Hb, ISBN: 81-86569-85-5. Hb, Rs 795/ \$ 50.

Publisher: INDICA BOOKS : D 40/ 18 Godaulia, Varanasi, UP 221001. INDIA

DISTRIBUTOR: Harmony Books, B 1/160 Assi Ghat, Varanasi, UP 221005, India.

Tel/Fax: 091-542-2310218. Manager: Rakesh Singh, Email: rakeshsingh42@rediffmail.com

Banaras, The City Revealed

George Michell and Rana P. B. Singh, eds.

Photographs by Clare Arni. Marg Publications, Mumbai.

A de luxe library edition, 305 x 241 mm, 152 pages with 133 illustrations (mostly colour);

Dec. 2005. ISBN: 81-85026-72-6, LC: 2005-318067. Rs 2500 / US\$ 66.

Covering themes like growth, power and patronage, the past, mosques & tombs, temple styles, temple murals, houses and mansions, wells-tanks and gardens, churches, and threat and prospects.

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Series editor:

Dr. Rana P.B. Singh (Professor of Cultural Geography, Banaras Hindu University, India)

Email: ranapbs@gmail.com

1. Uprooting Geographic Thoughts in India: Toward Ecology and Culture in 21st century.

Rana P.B. Singh.

Foreword: Prof. David Simon (Royal Holloway, University of London, U.K.)

This book is the first of its kind highlighting the roots of ancient geographical thought that gives a new vision and perspective for scientific vision and global understanding, together with examining the issues of India, Indianness and ecological cosmology. With its interdisciplinary nature and contents, this book will serve as lead reference and also textbook in the courses on geographical thought, Gandhian ideology, ecological history and philosophy, nature theology, environmental history, and cultural studies.

1 June 2009, 22 x 15cm, xvi + 325pp., 7 tables, 15 figures.

Hb, ISBN (10): 1-4438-0580-7: £39.99/\$59.99. Pb, ISBN (13): 978-1-4438-0580-3: £19.99/\$29.99.

Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 12 Back Chapman St, Newcastle upon Tyne NE6 2XX. U.K.

2. *Geographical Thoughts in India: Snapshots and Vision for the 21st Century.*

Rana P.B. Singh.

Foreword: Prof. Martin J. Haigh (Oxford Brooke University, U.K.)

This book deals with the contributions of emerging geographical thought from India that has historical and cultural roots emphasising man-nature interrelationships and interactions, which helped to form a distinct culture enriched with metaphysics, literature, lifeworld, village life, landscape, heritage, belief systems, and even the contemporary worldviews. This is a pioneering works from insider's perspective.

1 August 2009, 22 x 15cm, xvi + 429 pp.; 16 tables, 58 figures.

Hb, ISBN (10): 978-1-4438-1118-1: £44.99/\$66.99. Pb, ISBN (13): 978-1-4438-1118-4: £23.99/\$35.99.

Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 12 Back Chapman St, Newcastle upon Tyne NE6 2XX. U.K.

3. *Banaras: Making of India's Heritage City.*

Rana P.B. Singh.

Foreword: Prof. Dr Neils Gutschow (Heidelberg University, Germany)

Narrating the making of the Hindus' most sacred and heritage city of India (Banaras) this book will serve as lead reference and insightful reading for understanding the cultural complexities, archetypal connotations, ritualsapes and vivid heritagescapes that maintain India's pride of history and culture.

1 October 2009, A4 29 x 21cm, xvi + 409pp., 60 tables, 123 figures.

Pb, ISBN (10): 1-4438-1321-4, ISBN (13): 978-1-4438-1321-1. Price: £64.99/\$99.99.

Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 12 Back Chapman St, Newcastle upon Tyne NE6 2XX. U.K.

4. *Cosmic Order and Cultural Astronomy: Sacred Cities of India.*

Rana P.B. Singh.

Foreword: Prof. John McKim Malville (University of Colorado, U.S.A.)

This book deals with the critical appraisal of studying cultural astronomy and cosmic order and its implications in India, illustrated with studies of heritagescape of Khajuraho; manescape of Gaya; Deviscape of Vindhya goddess; Shivascape of Kashi, where Shiva dances; Shaktiscape of Kashi; and Naturescape of Chitrakut, where mother earth blesses.

1 November 2009, 22 x 15cm, xvi + 249pp., 15 tables, 72 figures.

ISBN (10): 1-4438-1417-2: £39.99/\$59.99. ISBN (13): 978-1-4438-1417-1: £19.99/\$29.99

Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 12 Back Chapman St, Newcastle upon Tyne NE6 2XX. U.K.

5. *Sacred Geography of Goddesses in South Asia. Essays in Memory of David Kinsley.* [14 essays].

Rana P.B. Singh (editor)

This anthology deals with the sacred geography of goddesses in South Asia that manifested and maintained tradition of goddess worship, and possesses the spatial and archetypal symbolism — the continuity of the scenarios, lifeways and performances that evolved in the past and continued today in spite of superimposition and layering upon layers of various cultures and traditions.

1 March 2010, 22 x 15cm, xviii + 395pp., 34 tables, 69 figures.

ISBN (10): 1-4438-1865-8, ISBN (13): 978-1-4438-1865-0. Price UK £: 49.99/ US \$: 74.99.

Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 12 Back Chapman St, Newcastle upon Tyne NE6 2XX. U.K.

6. *Heritagescapes and Cultural Landscapes*

Rana P.B. Singh (editor)

Foreword: Prof. William Logan (UNESCO Chair of Heritage, Deakin University, Australia)

Contents: Preface & Acknowledgements. Heritagescapes and Cultural Landscapes: An Appraisal— Singh (India); UNESCO's Heritage-scape: A Global Endeavour to Produce 'Peace in the Minds of Men' through Tourism and Preservation— Di Giovine (USA); Heritagescapes of India: Appraising Heritage Ecology— Singh and Rana (India); The World Heritage Villages of Shirakawa-go and Gokayama, Japan— Singh (India) and Fukunaga (Japan); Conservation of cultural landscape in Shirakawa-go— Kuroda (Japan); Preservation of Cultural Heritage and Revitalizing a Mining Town in México — Vargas-Hernández (México); Varanasi, India's Cultural Heritage City: Contestation, Conservation & Planning— Singh (India); Bodh Gaya, a World Heritage Site: Tourists and Native's Perceptions of Heritage and its Conservation— Singh and Kumar (India); Revaluation and Restoration of Sacred Sites: The Case of Jordan — Mondini (Italy); People with Learning Difficulties and their inclusion within Cultural and Heritage Sites — Jon Rix (U.K.); index; contributors; editor.

26 Jan. 2011, 22 x 15cm; xvi + 344pp, 18 tables, 52 figures, <ca. 123,530 words>

Hb, ISBN (10): 81-8290-226-6. Rs 1495.00/ US\$ 55. Shubhi Pubs., Gurgaon and New Delhi.

7. *Sacredscapes and Pilgrimage Systems*

Rana P.B. Singh (editor)

Foreword: Prof. Dallen J. Timothy (Arizona State University, USA)

Contents: Preface. Sacredscape and Pilgrimage Systems— Singh and Rana (India); Pilgrimage and Literature— Scott (Canada); Sufi views on Pilgrimage in Islam — Khalid Masud (Pakistan); The "Architecture of Light": From Sacred Geometry to Biophotonic Technology— Poenaru and Stănculescu (Romania); Kailash— the Centre of the World— Vinšćak and Smiljanić (Croatia); Rolwaling: A Sacred Buddhist Valley in Nepal— Sacherer (Japan); Landscape, Memory and Identity: Research on the Exiled Qian Bangqi— Dandan (China); The miracles of Mt. Wutai, China: the Spirit of Sacred place in Buddhism— Meyer (USA); The road to St. James-El Camino de Santiago: the spirit of place and environmental ethics— Kingsley Wu (USA); Current Jewish pilgrimage-tourism— Collins-Kreiner (Israel); Sacred Spaces, Pilgrimage and Tourism at Muktināth, Nepal— Poudel (Nepal) and Singh (India); Buddhist sacred places and Pilgrimage in North India— Singh (India); index; contributors; editor.

26 Jan. 2011, 22x 15cm, ca. xiv + 344pp, 16 tables, 51 figures, <ca. 122,000 words>

Hb, ISBN (10): 81-8290-227-4. Rs 1495.00/ US\$ 55. Shubhi Pubs., Gurgaon and New Delhi.

8. *Holy Places and Pilgrimages: Essays on India*

Rana P.B. Singh (editor)

Foreword: Prof. Robert H. Stoddard (Emeritus, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, USA)

Contents: Preface. Holy Places and Pilgrimages in India— Singh (India); The Message of Place in Hindu Pilgrimage— Sopher (USA); The Kamakhya Devi Temple— Ravi Singh (India); Sacred Environment of Mata Vaishno Devi— Chauhan (India); Sacred Performances, Sacred Landscapes— Shinde (Australia); Sacred Landscapes of Govardhan in Braj— Sinha (USA); Images of Tourists and Pilgrims in Banaras— Rana and Singh (India); Ritualscapes of Gaya— Singh (India); Shirdi as a Centre for Religious Tourism in India— Ghosal (India); Rituals and Sacred Space of Pandharpur— Sand (Denmark); Delhi Yatra: India's Capital as a Sacred Symbol for Political Discourse— White (USA); Pilgrimage and Religious Tourism in India: Countering Contestation and Seduction— Singh (India); index; contributors; editor.

26 Jan. 2011, 22 x 15cm; xvi + 344pp, 31 tables, 41 figures, <ca. 123,200 words>

Hb, ISBN (10): 81-8290-228-2. Rs 1495.00/ US\$ 55. Shubhi Pubs., Gurgaon and New Delhi.

9. *Hindu Tradition of Pilgrimage: Sacred Space & System*

Rana P.B. Singh

Contents: FOREWORD– Robert H. Stoddard (USA): 1-4; Preface and Acknowledgements: 5-6; Studies of Hindu Pilgrimages: Emerging trends and Bibliography: 7-48; Hindu Pilgrimages: History, Mythology and Present Concerns: 49-78; Sacredscapes & Pilgrimage System: Some Reflections: 79-120; the 51 Shaktipithas (Goddesses) and Sacred places: 121-158; The Ganga River: Image, Sacrality and Salvific Places: 159-194; Hindu Places of Pilgrimage: *Communitas* and Contestation: 195-238; Interfaces in Pilgrimage Landscape: Sacrality and Spatial Geometry: 239-272; Cosmic Ordering and Self Organisation among Sacred Cities: 273-298; Pilgrimage-Tourism in the Hindu Tradition: Perspectives and Vision: 299-328; the Gazetteer of Pilgrim Places (108) in India: 329-350; Index: 351-357; the author: 358.

To be out by 25 Oct. 2012, 22 x 15cm, ca. xii + 358pp; 17 tables, 47 figs., <ca. 128,250 words> Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 12 Back Chapman St, Newcastle upon Tyne NE6 2XX. U.K.

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In Preparation

§ *Kashi & Cosmos. Ritualscape and Sacred Geography of Banaras.*

Rana P. B. Singh

2014. 29 x 21cm. 600pp. 80 tables + 150 maps/ figures, 64 B-W photographs.

This book is the collection of all the research papers published by the author during 1980-2009; all are updated, revised and re-written to fit into the sequence and the subject matter, along with several new chapters to interconnect the themes. This is an encyclopaedic book on Varanasi/ Kashi. The chapters cover themes like Banaras and its Images, Geographical Personality (physical landscape and climatic characteristics), Transformation on the cradle of Time (evolution), The Ghats: the Riverfront Heritagescape, Pilgrimage mandala and cultural astronomy, Sacred Journeys and Associated Deities, Panchakroshi Yatra: Cosmic Circuit and Journey, Sacred Geography of Goddesses, Sun shrines and the Sacredscapes, The Festivals and Ritualscape, Sacrality and Perceptual World, Literary Images: Change and Continuity, Modern Varanasi as revealed in Singh's *Street Turns Yonder*, Demographic Profile and James Prinsep's Census, The Buddhist Sacredscape (Sarnath), Heritage Tourism: Scenario and Perspectives, The Muslim Sacredscape; and Selected Bibliography (1350 sources). At the end there are several APPENDICES, consisting of Historical Outline, Festivals & Roman Dates, 1991-2015, List of Kashi's Divinities (1200), List of Devas by Muhallas, List of Pilgrimage Routes and Images, Sacred Journeys and Sites: GPS values of 450 sites, List of Existing 324 Shiva Lingas, as ref. KKh, and List of Lost 200 Shiva Lingas, as ref. KKh. Appendices, Index (author, subject).

Prof. Rana P. B. Singh : Curriculum Vitae

Date of Birth: 15 th December 1950. Nationality: INDIA. Education Degrees: M.A. 1971, Ph.D. 1974 (BHU). Affiliation: Dept. of Geography, Faculty of Science, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, UP 221005. INDIA.
Specialisation: Pilgrimage Studies, Heritage & Ecotourism; Sacred Geography; Architectural symbolism; Cultural & Historical Geography; Environmental ethics, Humanism; Rural Land use & Settlements
Language ability: <i>Speak and write:</i> English, Hindi. <i>Read only:</i> Sanskrit
Countries visited and lectures given: Australia, Austria, Belgium, P.R. China, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Italy, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, USA (& Hawaii), Soviet Union, Thailand.
Teaching assignments: at Dept. of Geography, Banaras Hindu University (BHU): Lecturer (1977-1980), Senior Lecturer (1983-90), Reader (1991- 1998), PROFESSOR (since Jan 1999) Geography, BHU, Varanasi →
Visiting assignment abroad: Japan Foundation Fellow in Geography, Okayama University, Japan, 1980; Visiting Professor, Geogr. & Environ. System, Virginia Tech (P.I. & S.U.), Blacksburg, USA, 1981; Visiting Professor: Karlstad University (Sweden) - BHU-Exchange Programme, 1989, 1993, 1996, 2003, 2006, Linnaeus-Palme Visit. Prof. May 2002 and May-June 2005; R. G. Lister Lecturer, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand, 1995; Indo-Japanese Exchange Visiting Professor, Gifu Women's University, Gifu, Japan, Dec. 2004; Indo-Japanese Exchange Visiting Professor, Toyo University, Tokyo, Japan, Dec. 2010.
Ph. D. Research supervision: 11 students awarded Ph D degrees, 1988-2012.
Publications: <i>Research Papers</i> : 210 (Indian Jls./ books : 143; International Jls./ books : 67) <i>Research Monographs</i> : 14. <i>Ed./Co-Ed. Research anthologies</i> : 27. <i>Text books</i> : 2 (Practical Geogr.) <i>Tour guidebooks</i> : 2. <i>Co-ed. Catalogues</i> : 2. <i>Books reviewed</i> (in NGJI): over 240. <i>General articles</i> : 20.
Presentation in: International Geographical Congress (IGC): 23rd Moscow, USSR 1976 ; 24th Tokyo, Japan 1980 ; 28th the Hague, Netherlands 1996 . World Congress of IAHR , the 19th Tokyo, Japan: 24-30 March 2005
U.N.O. Project: Completed UNO-CHBP short term project (Chamaon GS), 1977 and published in 1977.
Notable Academic contributions: Spatio-temporal Dimensional theory of Diffusion. Space Articulation theory in Indian villages. Literary images & Spirit of Place. Ritual Mandala & Sacrality of Space and Time. Pilgrimage Mandala, Sacred Geography & Cosmic Order of Holy Places. Geomancy & Cultural symbolism in Hinduism. Concepts of Sacredscape and Faithscape. Pilgrimage systems and Self Organised Criticality theory, Cultural astronomy and Ordering of Sacredscapes and holy cities. Architectural symbolism and Heritage planning.
Experience with the International Geographical Union (IGU), AAG & UNO: <i>Secretary:</i> IGU Working Group, Transformation of Rural Habitat in Developing Countries, 1976-1984; <i>Corres. Member:</i> IGU Commission - Population Geography, 1976-2000; - History of Geographical Thought, 1988-2004; <i>Corres. Member:</i> IGU Study Gr.-Cultural Approach in Geography, 1996-2004. <i>Member</i> , SG on 'Geography of Religion & Belief Systems' (AAG, USA), 1989-1998. <i>Consultant:</i> UNO-CHBP, New York, 1977-80; Member, South Asia, IGU Initiative: Cultures and Civilizations for Human Development, 2005→.
Member & Editorship: <i>Life-Member:</i> Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (<i>INTACH</i> ; L-10517), National Association of Geographers, India (<i>NAGI</i> ; L-547); National Geographical Society of India (<i>NGSI</i> ; L-108); <i>Assoc./Executive Editor:</i> National Geographical Journal of India, 1986-1995. <i>Editor, Earth Scs. Sect.</i> , JI. of Scientific Research (Sc. Fac., BHU), 1990-1995.
Member in International South Asia Net System: SASNET (Lund Univ. Sweden), JASNET (Gifu Univ. Japan), AASNET (Australia, Curtin Univ. of Tech. Perth), International Research Foundation on SAARC, Tokyo.
Fd President: Society of Pilgrimage Studies (SPS), 1989; Society of Heritage Planning & Environmental Health (SHPEH), 1995; Indian Society of Environment and Culture (ISEC), 1995. Indo-Japanese Friendship Association, Banaras, IJAB, 1984; Indo-Nordic Cultural Association, INCA , 1992.; Indo-Israel Cultural Assoc, IICA, 2002
Chief Co-ordinator (Hon.): New York State Independent College Consortium for Study in India, <i>NYSICCSI</i> , (Program at Varanasi in Nov-Dec.), since 1995→; Friends of World Progr., Long Is. Univ., USA, since 2000→
International Project Collaboration: * Centre for Environmental Tech., Imperial College at Silwood Park (UK), on "Land use and Farming Systems in Peri-urban areas around Varanasi City", May - Oct. 1999, & April 2000 - March 2002. * University of Colorado, Boulder (USA) and SHPEH on "Cultural Astronomy & Pilgrimage Systems: The Bathers' Survey, Varanasi", November 1998 - June 2000; (collaborator: John McKim Malville) * German Research Council : SAI, Univ. of Heidelberg (Germany) Interdisciplinary Project on "Visualized Space and representation in Varanasi", 1999-2002; (collaborators: Axel Michaels, Hans-G. Bohle, Rana P. B. Singh)
Promoting & directing: Deep & Pilgrimage-Tourism and Tours; Slide-show lectures on Sacred Places in & around Varanasi , and mass awakening to the heritage preservation.
Awards & Nominations: * American Biographical Inst., ABI: "International Peace Prize", 2003, "American Medal of Honour", 2003. "Man of the Year - 1999", "2000", "2003". "Contemporary Who's Who", 2003. "Research Board of Advisors", 1999, 2000, 2000-2003. "2000 Millennium Medal of Honor" - 1999. "Outstanding Man of the 20th Century" - December 1999. *International Biogr. Inst., Cambridge: "Outstanding People of the 20th Century" - 1999. * Marquis Who's Who (USA): "Who's Who in the World", 1999 - 2007.
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